

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 05536 160424Z

17
ACTION SS-25

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R 160345Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 706

S E C R E T TAIPEI 5536

EXDIS

EO 11652 GDS
TAGS TECH NNUC TW
SUBJECT: NUCLEAR FUEL REPROCESSING PLANTS

REF: TAIPEI 5351

1. ON SOCIAL OCCASION AT MY RESIDENCE FRIDAY EVENING, I PASSED TO VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FRED CH'EN MATERIAL FROM WIRELESS FILE REPORTING U.S. CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE CONSTRUCTION NUCLEAR FUEL REPROCESSING PLANTS PAKISTAN, IRAN, AND ELSEWHERE. I SAID I WAS PASSING THIS ALONG AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION TO UNDERLINE CONTINUING CONCERN U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS ABOUT THIS NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION PROBLEM WHEREVER IT MAY ARISE IN THE WORLD. I ADDED WE WERE AWARE OF ROLE MANY NATIONS EXPECTED NUCLEAR POWER TO PLAY IN MEETING NATIONAL ENERGY REQUIREMENTS, BUT WE WERE STRONGLY PERSUADED THAT NATIONAL FACILITIES FOR REPROCESSING RAISED UNACCEPTABLE RISKS OF PROLIFERATION.

2. CH'EN ACKNOWLEDGED MY COMMENTS AND SAID THAT HE WELL UNDERSTOOD OUR CONCERNS AND THAT WE NEED HAVE NO WORRIES HERE.

GROC HAD ASSURED US OF ITS INTENTIONS EARLIER, AND WE COULD BE CERTAIN IT WOULD STAND BY ITS ASSURANCES. I SAID I WAS AWARE OF APPROACH MADE SOME TIME AGO, BEFORE MY TIME IN TAIPEI, TO FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN AND THAT I MENTIONED THE MATTER NOW BECAUSE I HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED BY CONTINUING AND EVEN GREATER CONCERN OF MY GOVERNMENT ABOUT CREATION NATIONAL FACILITIES.

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3. COMMENT: I CANNOT BE SURE WHETHER FRED CH'EN'S ASSURANCES

CAN BE TAKEN TO RELATE SPECIFICALLY TO NUCLEAR FUEL REPROCESSING
PLANTS OR TO NUCLEAR WEAPONS, OR TO BOTH, BUT MY OPENING COMMENTS
TO HIM WERE UNMISTAKABLY RELATED TO FORMERR, AS WERE WIRELESS FILE
MATERIALS. I MADE REFERENCE TO APPROACH TO SHEN RATHER THAN TO
PREMIER SINCE I DO NOT KNOW WHO HAS BEEN TOLD BY PREMIER OF
MY APPROACH TO HIM OF MAY 27.
UNGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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